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Viewing cable 09ISLAMABAD2576, EXTREMISM IN SOUTHERN PUNJAB AND NORTHERN SINDH

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09ISLAMABAD2576**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09ISLAMABAD2576	2009-10-23 03:49	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Islamabad

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/terrorism/article2038326.ece>

VZCZCXRO7776
PP RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHIL #2576/01 2960349
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 230349Z OCT 09
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5519
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 1033
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1590
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 5635
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 7056
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE 8010
RUEHQP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 2412
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 ISLAMABAD 002576

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/22/2019
TAGS: [ELAB](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: EXTREMISM IN SOUTHERN PUNJAB AND NORTHERN SINDH

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson for reasons 1.4 (b) (d)

[1](#). (SBU) Summary: Though the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) continue to grab headlines for BROKEN AGRICULTURE & FAILING EDUCATION

[1](#)2. (C) Both Southern Punjab and Northern Sindh are still mainly agricultural societies with few other viable industries. Traditionally, the [1](#)3. (C) As farming disappears as a source of income for the populace, government education systems fail to prepare their students for anything [1](#)4. (U) Unlike in the recent past, the poor and jobless youth are no longer cut off from the outside world. Increasingly free media and inter TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP VACUUM & EXTREME IDEOLOGY GROWTH

[1](#)5. (SBU) Several academic studies, including a recent look at the connection between poverty and militancy by the Pakistan Institute of Peace ISLAMABAD 00002576 002 OF 004

[1](#)6. (C) Traditionally, landlords and religious Sufi Pirs (who were often the same individual) lived among their communities and were largely

[1](#)7. (C) Many have claimed that a region so steeped in Sufi mysticism could not fall prey to militancy. To a certain extent peaceful Bareilvi i ACTIVE MILITANT RECRUITMENT

[1](#)8. (C) Across Southern Punjab and increasingly in Quetta and Karachi, Pakistani militant groups openly recruit young men with promises of a MILITANT GROUPS

[1](#)9. (C) The Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan (SSP) was formed in 1985 in Jhang, Punjab by anti-Shia clerics. This banned terrorist organization is fc ISLAMABAD 00002576 003 OF 004

ideological and militant birthing ground for other militant groups. The group was linked with the 1997 attack on former prime minister Nawaz

[1](#)10. (C) Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) grew out of SSP and was founded in Bhakkar, South Punjab. The Deobandi organization was initially focused or

[1](#)11. (C) Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) is another SSP breakaway Deobandi organization that was started by Masood Azhar of Bahawalpur after he returne

[1](#)12. (C) Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) is an organization based in the Central Punjab city of Muridke, but has spread across Southern Punjab as well.

[1](#)13. (C) Since the 1980s, there has been a history of Punjabi extremists fighting and training alongside Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Rabbani, and nc

[1](#)14. (C) Comment: Aisha Siddiqi, who herself is from Southern Punjab, maintains that the message of militancy is quite potent, especially in ISLAMABAD 00002576 004 OF 004

complicated problem. Punjab and Sindh represent the heart of Pakistan and deploying the military in these areas, as was done in Swat and FATA PATTERSON